

## Message Text

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16

ORIGIN USIA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 EB-11 CU-04 SAJ-01 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /117 R

66613

DRAFTED BY: USIA:IEE:GCALLAWAY

APPROVED BY: EUR/EX:HGEISEL

EUR/EE:EHURWITZ (SUBS)

USIA:IEE:JWSHIRLEY

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R 242031Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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FOR P AND C

E.O. 11652: N/A

TO WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE

1. MAY 22 POST ARTICLE BY DUSKO DOBER ENTITLED "TOURS TO AMERICA ARE A SIGN OF EASIER TIMES." ARTICLE SAYS "EVEN BULGARIA, THE SOVIET UNION'S STAUNCHEST ALLY IN EASTERNEUROPE, HAS BEEN INFLUENCED BY DETENTE. A FEW YEARS AGO THE VERY THOUGHT OF ORGANIZING TOURIST EXCURSIONS TO THE US WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED ALMOST TREASONOUS HERE. NOWADAYS, PACKAGE TOURS TO THE WEST ARE POSSIBLE FOR DESERVING REGIME SUPPORTERS." DOBER CAUTIONS "THIS IS NOT TO SUGGEST A POLITICAL OR CULTURAL LIBERALIZATION (SINCE)

BULGARIANS CONTINUE TO RUN A TIGHT SHIP IDEOLOGICALLY." HE ADDS THAT THERE IS "A PRONOUNCED FLAVOR OF MOSCOW" IN SOFIA AND "POLITICALLY, MOSCOW HAS FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN ALL DECISIONS MADE IN SOFIA SINCE WORLD WAR II." ARTICLE CITES RUSSIAN AID TO BULGARIA SINCE 1877 AND HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING ENJOYED BY BULGARIANS  
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WHO, NEVERTHELESS, "STILL SEEM TO SUFFER FROM AN ABSENCE OF

CULTURAL VIGOR AND INTELLECTUAL FERMENT." ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH  
REFERENCE TO "A GOOD DEAL OF TALK ABOUT POSSIBLE MASSIVE AMERICAN  
INVESTMENT IN BULGARIA."

2. ARTICLE SENT.  
DECONTROL DECEMBER 31, 1974. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, DETENTE, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, JOURNALISTS, NEWSPAPERS, TOURISTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D740131-1012  
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**Line Count:** 67  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN USIA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 10 APR 2002  
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